

COVID-19

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

COVID-19 CASES REPORTED INVOLVING SNOHOMISH HEALTH DISTRICT STAFF

Today the Snohomish Health District confirmed that an employee working at the District's headquarters has tested positive for COVID-19 and another employee is considered probable, pending lab results.

NEW VIDEO: PHASE 2 REMINDERS

The Joint Information Center has created a video to remind the community what Phase 2 entails. Link at right.

CITY OF ARLINGTON BUSINESS RENT RELIEF GRANT OPEN FOR ROUND 2: APPLICATIONS DUE JUNE 29 BY 10 A.M.

The City of Arlington has opened a second opportunity for local businesses to apply for rent relief grants. Details at right.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY DAILY BRIEFING

COVID-19 Cases Reported Involving Snohomish Health District Staff

Today the Snohomish Health District confirmed that an employee working at the District's headquarters in Everett has tested positive for COVID-19. Another is considered probable, pending lab results.

One case developed mild symptoms on June 7 and has remained home since then. Their test results are pending. Another asymptomatic employee was identified as part of the Health District's case investigation as a close contact and was tested. Their tests results came back positive today. Both will remain isolated at home for the standard minimum 10-day period. In accordance with the spirit and letter of health care privacy laws, the Health District will not be commenting further on the health status of staff members involved in the outbreak.

The Health District has been in touch with about 15 employees who were considered to be close contacts. They have all been tested and will self-quarantine at home until test results are back.

The Health District notified all employees of the situation this morning. Any staff in the building were tested and sent home for the rest of the week. Other staff who had been in the building since June 1, but were not onsite today, were instructed to contact their healthcare provider or make an appointment for one of the community-based testing sites this week.

The Health District has closed the Rucker Building located at 3020 Rucker Ave in Everett for the rest of the week. It will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected prior to re-opening. Online services remain in place, and remote work will continue.

Per [requirements of the Phase 2 approval letter](#), the Health District has notified the Department of Health, as two or more cases in a workplace are considered an outbreak—albeit a small one. This is being managed aggressively out of an abundance of caution, following prevailing standards, and in consultation with the Washington State Department of Health.

The Health District has been preparing for the possibility that employees might test positive for COVID-19 or need to self-quarantine since the beginning of the response. The Health District will continue to follow its own guidance for employers and take every precaution to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

For more information please read SHD's [news release](#)

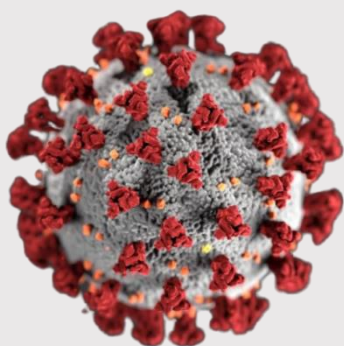
New Video: Phase 2 Reminders

The Joint Information Center, which includes the Snohomish Health District, has created a video to remind the community what Phase 2 entails.

For more information please view the [video](#) and the Governor's [Safe Start Guidance](#).

City of Arlington Business Rent Relief Grant Open for Round 2: Applications Due June 29 by 10:00 A.M.

The City of Arlington is awarding a total of \$95,372 to 36 Arlington businesses to support their recovery with a Business Rent Relief Grant. City Council approved distribution of a total of \$200,000 in Federal CARES Act



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COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY'S CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE FUND

Donations for mid-term recovery are currently being collected and matched and will be used to support recovery efforts in Snohomish County.

INSLEE LETTER TO PENCE CALLS FOR NATIONAL PPE MOBILIZATION

Gov. Jay Inslee sent a letter today to Vice President Pence calling for a federal response to address the persistent shortages of PPE.

funding for the grant program, with additional applications being accepted until June 29, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Application here:

<https://arlingtonwa.seamlessdocs.com/f/rentgrant>

Mayor Barb Tolbert said, "We are pleased to be able to help our small businesses in this way. They are working really hard to open safely and meet with customers who have been anxiously waiting for this Phase. We have heard from businesses about their struggles and ask that you please support local when you can." The City recognizes the role of small businesses in providing jobs to residents and through sales tax collections to fund the services that are critical to our public. The Business Rent Relief Grant is a piece to the overall recovery. This grant program focuses on small businesses that are critical to supporting our community's broad-based recovery. Priority will be given to dining, retail, and service sector establishments.

The maximum award is \$3,500 to cover one-two months' rent/lease/mortgage. Businesses must meet the eligibility criteria: have a physical location in Arlington city limits (not including home occupancy businesses), have a current City of Arlington business license <http://arlingtonwa.gov/251/Business-Licenses>, have 10 or less full time employees (including owner, not including part-time employees), have been negatively impacted by COVID-19, are applying for eligible lease/rent/mortgage payments, and be at least 51% majority owner in the business. Additional requirements for the grant are for the business to submit a business recovery plan, and to identify what their long term and immediate goals and actions will be for sustainability. Having received or applied for other assistance does not make a business ineligible for this grant.

The grant application closes on June 29, at 10:00 a.m. Information can be found at: <http://arlingtonwa.gov/666/Business-Resources-COVID-19>.

Application is available here:

<https://arlingtonwa.seamlessdocs.com/f/rentgrant>

For more information please read Arlington's [news release](#).

Community Foundation of Snohomish County's Coronavirus Response Fund

Community Foundation of Snohomish County has launched a coronavirus response fund to assist with local recovery. Donations for mid-term recovery are currently being collected and matched and will be used to support recovery efforts in Snohomish County.

Please visit Community Foundation of Snohomish County's [webpage](#) for more information or to [make a donation](#).

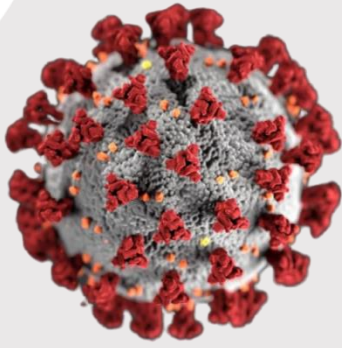
Inslee Letter to Pence Calls for National PPE Mobilization

Gov. Jay Inslee sent a [letter](#) today to Vice President Mike Pence calling for a federal response to address persistent shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE) and adequately protect healthcare and frontline workers, including by invoking the Defense Production Act.

The letter reads, in part:

"More than four months after the first U.S. coronavirus case was confirmed in our state, it is clear that the status quo is not working. The inadequacy of the federal stockpile, the overreliance on foreign suppliers, and the limited domestic production of PPE have meant that in our time of greatest need, our nation has been unable to adequately protect healthcare and other frontline workers.

Inslee's letter calls for the federal government to:



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INSLEE HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE

Gov. Jay Inslee held a press conference this afternoon to address efforts to secure PPE and issues related to ongoing protests around the state.

WASHINGTON FAMILIES GET HELP TO BUY FOOD DURING SCHOOL CLOSURES

Families in Washington will soon have food benefits available to them to help buy groceries while children are home from school.

- Use the Defense Production Act to increase domestic PPE production to meet current and future needs.
- Develop a comprehensive assessment of protection needs by industry.
- Provide more detailed and adequately protective federal guidance for workers across all sectors.
- Create a national industry consultation program to provide technical assistance to employers on safely reconfiguring businesses.
- Replenish and expand the Strategic National Stockpile.

[Read the news release.](#) [Read the full letter.](#)

Inslee Held a Press Conference

Gov. Jay Inslee addressed the media today. Topics included: the state's efforts to secure PPE (personal protective equipment), issuing a new face mask challenge, and issues related to ongoing protests around the state.

Watch the recording on [TVW](#).

Washington Families Get Help to Buy Food During School Closures

Because schools have been closed due to COVID-19, families in Washington state will soon have food benefits available to them to help buy groceries while children have been home from school. Called [Pandemic EBT, or P-EBT](#), these food benefits are available to families with children who are eligible for schools' free or reduced-price meal programs. The [Public Charge rule](#) does not apply to P-EBT benefits and will not impact immigration status.

The [Department of Social and Health Services](#) received federal approval to implement P-EBT and is partnering with the [Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction](#) to distribute these benefits by early July.

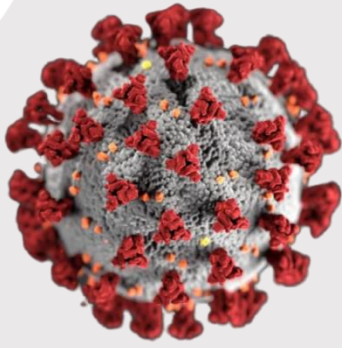
"Many students rely on their school for nutritious meals during the day," said Superintendent of Public Instruction Chris Reykdal. "These benefits will help families most impacted by the COVID-19 crisis to continue to have access to nutritious meals."

"I believe food is often our best medicine," said DSHS Secretary Cheryl Strange. "Every bit of support we can provide families to help them achieve their full potential is critically important, especially during this time."

Most families who already receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits, also known as SNAP or Basic Food in Washington state, and whose children already receive free or reduced-price meals do not need to apply. The P-EBT benefits – a one-time amount up to \$399 per eligible child in each household – automatically will be deposited onto existing EBT cards in early July.

Families with children who become eligible for free and reduced-price meals after their school closed may get less than \$399 per child. This depends on when a family applied for Basic Food benefits or when they completed a household income application with their school district.

Other families, including those whose children attend a school where meals are free for all students, will need to apply. Families with children who are newly eligible for free or reduced-price school meals must fill out a meal application with their school district before June 30 and before they apply for P-EBT.



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INSLEE EXTENDS PROCLAMATION PROTECTING HIGH-RISK WORKERS

Gov. Jay Inslee extended a proclamation giving high-risk workers the right to protect themselves from COVID-19 without jeopardizing their employment or loss of income.

INSLEE ISSUES GUIDANCE FOR DOMESTIC SERVICES, RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Gov. Jay Inslee issued new guidance for domestic services in Phase 2 and expanded and updated guidance for certain recreational activities.

P-EBT benefits do not replace any Child Nutrition Program already offered, and families are encouraged to continue participating in grab-n-go meals or emergency food programs at their local schools and community locations, even if they receive P-EBT benefits.

Families with children who are eligible and approved by their school district for free or reduced-price meals and who do not currently get Basic Food benefits, must apply online at Washingtonconnection.org for P-EBT before August 31 or the start of the 2020-2021 school year—whichever is later. The website is available in English and Spanish.

Families who need to apply or who have other questions about [P-EBT benefits](#) can call the DSHS Customer Service Contact Center at 877-501-2233 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday (except observed holidays).

For more information please read the joint [news release](#).

Inslee Extends Proclamation Protecting High-Risk Workers

Governor Jay Inslee on Tuesday announced the extension of a proclamation giving high-risk workers the right to protect themselves from COVID-19 without jeopardizing their employment status or loss of income.

The [proclamation](#) provides older workers and those with underlying health conditions a series of rights and protections, including:

- The choice of an alternative work assignment, including telework, alternative or remote work locations if feasible, and social distancing measures.
- The ability to use any accrued leave or unemployment benefits if an alternative work assignment is not feasible and the employee is unable to safely work. Employers must maintain health insurance benefits while high risk employees are off the job.
- Employers are prohibited from permanently replacing high-risk employees.

High-risk individuals are defined by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) and specifically include:

- 65 years of age or older; and
- People of all ages with underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled.

The proclamation was extended through August 1, 2020.

For more information please read the Governor's [news release](#) and [proclamation](#).

Inslee Issues Guidance for Domestic Services, Recreational Activities

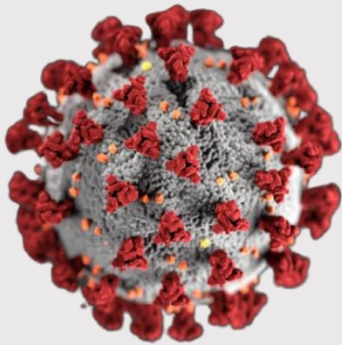
Governor Jay Inslee on Tuesday issued new guidance for domestic services in Phase 2. Inslee also issued expanded and updated guidance for certain recreational activities.

Domestic Services:

The guidance acknowledges that domestic workers, including nannies, house cleaners, cooks and household managers are less able to access sick leave or unemployment benefits. Employers are encouraged to be aware of the limitations their workers may have in accessing worker protections.

Guidance documents:

- Memo: [Domestic Services Industry](#)



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NEW DOH BLOG POST: PROVIDING HUMAN CONNECTION WHILE MAINTAINING PHYSICAL DISTANCE

The Washington State Department of Health published a new blog post on the SSPs across the state continuing to provide dedicated services while maintaining physical distance. More at right.

- [Phase 2 Domestic Services Industry COVID-19 Requirements](#)

Recreational Activities:

Today's recreational guidance expands options for counties in Phase 1.5, and updates the guidance available for other types of outdoor recreation.

Guidance documents:

- Memo: [Modified Phase 1 Miniature Golf, Putt Putt Golf, and Staffed Water Recreation Facilities; Phase 2 Golf; Modified Phase 1 Gymnastics; and Aquariums](#)
- [Modified Phase 1 Miniature Golf, Putt Putt Golf, and Staffed Water Recreation Facilities \(Public and Private\) COVID-19 Reopening Requirements](#)
- Updated: [Outdoor Recreation Phase 1 Clarifications and Phase 2 Guidance COVID-19 Requirements](#)
- Updated: [Golf Restart Phase 2 COVID-19 Requirements and Recommendations](#)

[Full list of guidance for all current businesses.](#)

For more information please read the Governor's [news release](#).

New DOH Blog Post: Providing Human Connection While Maintaining Physical Distance

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) published a new blog post thanking [Syringe Services Programs](#) (SSPs) across the state who are continuing to provide dedicated services while maintaining the physical distance necessary to prevent the spread of COVID-19. DOH explains that these programs offer access to nonjudgmental health education and lifesaving supplies to people who use drugs. SSPs are a crucial part of our efforts to meet the goals of [End AIDS Washington](#), [Hep C Free Washington](#), and the state [Opioid Response Plan](#).

Preventing the spread of COVID-19

Due to the ongoing pandemic, SSPs needed to change how they operate. Some of the changes these programs made to remain open and prevent the spread of COVID-19 include:

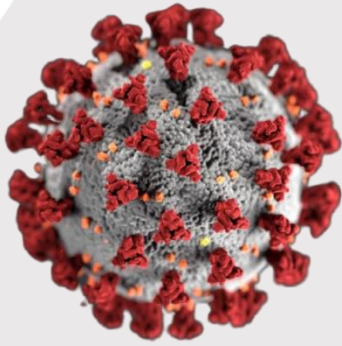
- Moving services outdoors
- Providing more supplies than usual to reduce the frequency of visits
- Pre-packing supplies to allow for contactless delivery
- Shifting from onsite services to mobile or delivery services
- Restricting bathroom access
- Changing operating hours
- Limiting face-to-face services (e.g., suspending HIV/hepatitis C testing and case management services)
- Offering written materials about COVID-19 prevention
- Increasing the amount of basic hygiene supplies provided
- Implementing comprehensive sanitizing protocols

Continuing to serve those hit hardest

COVID-19 disproportionately affects communities served by SSPs, including those experiencing homelessness and marginally housed people.

Unfortunately, with the current COVID-19 epidemic, overdose deaths are likely to increase due to the unpredictability of street drugs and the physical distancing requirements that make it difficult to observe and respond to overdoses.

Human connection is a major component of effective SSPs



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THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IS HIRING

Link to apply for the temporary positions is at right.

CDC'S RESUMING BUSINESS TOOLKIT

Link to the CDC's Resuming Business toolkit is at right.

STAY HOME, STAY HEALTHY ORDERS ACROSS THE U.S. PREVENTED AN ESTIMATED 60 MILLION COVID-19 INFECTIONS

A new study published in the scientific journal Nature estimates that Stay Home, Stay Healthy orders across the country have prevented about 60 million COVID-19 infections. More at right.

CORONAVIRUS VACCINE CANDIDATES' PIVOTAL U.S. TESTING TO START THIS SUMMER

The U.S. government plans to fund and conduct the decisive studies of three experimental coronavirus vaccines this summer. Details at right.

SSP staff are dedicated to supporting people without the stigma associated with their behavior. Building these relationships has a positive impact because when people feel someone cares about them they are more likely to seek help, including health care, mental health care, and treatment for substance use disorder.

To learn more about SSPs:

- Visit DOH's [drug user health webpage](#).
- Read this recent article to learn more about [The Impact of COVID-19 on Syringe Services Programs in the United States](#).
- See the results of the [2019 Syringe Exchange Health Survey](#), a biennial survey of people who inject drugs in Washington.
- Save the date for an upcoming virtual conference, Transforming our Communities: Health, Equity, and Justice for People Who Use Drugs. The conference will be held via Zoom on June 22nd and July 7th, from 9am-12:30pm. For more information reach out to Lisa Rey Thomas, lrethomas@uw.edu.

For more information please read DOH's [blog post](#).

The Small Business Administration is Hiring

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is hiring temporary employees to assist with disaster relief efforts related to COVID-19. Bilingual language skills are a plus.

For more information please visit the SBA's [webpage](#).

CDC's Resuming Business Toolkit

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published a Resuming Business Toolkit. The toolkit is designed to assist employers in slowing the spread of COVID-19 and lowering the impact in their workplace when reintegrating employees into non-healthcare business settings.

For more information please read the CDC's [Resuming Business Toolkit](#).

Stay Home, Stay Healthy Orders Across the U.S. Prevented an Estimated 60 Million COVID-19 Infections

A new study published in the scientific journal Nature, estimates that Stay Home, Stay Healthy orders across the country have prevented about 60 million COVID-19 infections. The study suggests that the shutdowns, which caused massive economic disruptions and job losses, were effective at halting the exponential spread of the novel coronavirus.

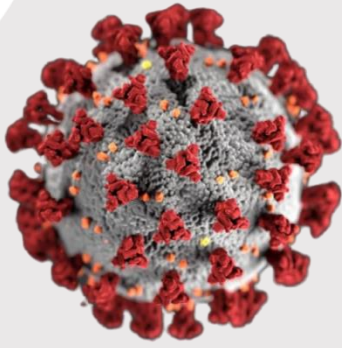
For more information please read the [article](#) and [study](#).

Coronavirus Vaccine Candidates' Pivotal U.S. Testing to Start this Summer

The U.S. government plans to fund and conduct the decisive studies of three experimental coronavirus vaccines starting this summer, according to John Mascola, Director of the Vaccine Research Center at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

The phase III trials, expected to involve tens of thousands of subjects at dozens of sites around the United States, would mark the final stage of testing. Moderna's vaccine is set to be studied in July, followed in August by one co-developed by Oxford University and AstraZeneca, and in September by Johnson & Johnson's vaccine.

Researchers will track whether people who receive the vaccines are infected with the virus and develop COVID-19 at lower rates than those



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FDA SHARES COVID-19 EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AND FAQs

The FDA has shared educational resources including links to videos, fact sheets, and social media toolkits related to COVID-19. All are available on its website.

Congressional Budget Office Releases Report Projecting COVID-19's Impact on GDP

The CBO estimates that the GDP will contract by 11 percent in the second quarter of 2020, which is equivalent to a decline of 38 percent at an annual rate. Reports available at right.

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD ISSUES STATEMENT AND ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS

The coronavirus outbreak is causing tremendous human and economic hardship across the United States and around the world. The ongoing public health crisis will weigh heavily on economic activity, employment, and inflation in the near term, and poses considerable risks to the economic outlook over the medium term. More from the statement from the Federal Reserve Board Statement at right.

who get placebo. The studies will be conducted in locations where the virus continues to spread.

For more information please read the [article](#).

FDA Shares COVID-19 Educational Resources and FAQs

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has shared educational resources, including links to videos, fact sheets, and social media toolkits related to COVID-19.

For more information please check out the FDA's [COVID-19 Educational Resources](#) and [FAQs](#).

Congressional Budget Office Releases Report Projecting COVID-19's Impact on GDP

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) published a report projecting the decline of the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) due to COVID-19. The CBO states that the "pandemic and the social distancing measures taken to contain it have widely disrupted economic activity, causing a wave of job losses and ending the longest expansion since World War II."

In the reports, the CBO estimates that real (inflation-adjusted) GDP will contract by 11 percent in the second quarter of 2020, which is equivalent to a decline of 38 percent at an annual rate. The CBO warns that in the second quarter, the number of people employed will be almost 26 million lower than the number in the fourth quarter of 2019.

For more information please read the [article](#), the Speaker of the House's [statement](#), and the following CBO reports:

- [Interim Economic Projections for 2020 and 2021](#)
- [The Decline in CBO's Projections of Gross Domestic Product for 2020 and 2021](#)

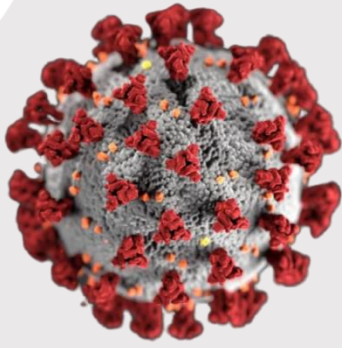
Federal Reserve Board Issues Statement and Economic Projections

The Federal Reserve is committed to using its full range of tools to support the U.S. economy in this challenging time, thereby promoting its maximum employment and price stability goals.

The coronavirus outbreak is causing tremendous human and economic hardship across the United States and around the world. The virus and the measures taken to protect public health have induced sharp declines in economic activity and a surge in job losses. Weaker demand and significantly lower oil prices are holding down consumer price inflation. Financial conditions have improved, in part reflecting policy measures to support the economy and the flow of credit to U.S. households and businesses.

The ongoing public health crisis will weigh heavily on economic activity, employment, and inflation in the near term, and poses considerable risks to the economic outlook over the medium term. In light of these developments, the Committee decided to maintain the target range for the federal funds rate at 0 to 1/4 percent. The Committee expects to maintain this target range until it is confident that the economy has weathered recent events and is on track to achieve its maximum employment and price stability goals.

The Committee will continue to monitor the implications of incoming information for the economic outlook, including information related to public health, as well as global developments and muted inflation pressures, and will use its tools and act as appropriate to support the economy. In determining the timing and size of future adjustments to the



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U.S. – CANADA BORDER CLOSURE TO BE EXTENDED BEYOND JUNE 21, SOURCES SAY

Sources tell the CBC that the Canada-U.S. border closure to all non-essential traffic will be extended beyond June 21.

stance of monetary policy, the Committee will assess realized and expected economic conditions relative to its maximum employment objective and its symmetric 2 percent inflation objective. This assessment will take into account a wide range of information, including measures of labor market conditions, indicators of inflation pressures and inflation expectations, and readings on financial and international developments.

To support the flow of credit to households and businesses, over coming months the Federal Reserve will increase its holdings of Treasury securities and agency residential and commercial mortgage-backed securities at least at the current pace to sustain smooth market functioning, thereby fostering effective transmission of monetary policy to broader financial conditions. In addition, the Open Market Desk will continue to offer large-scale overnight and term repurchase agreement operations. The Committee will closely monitor developments and is prepared to adjust its plans as appropriate.

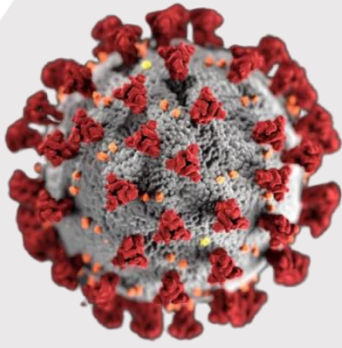
For more information please read the Federal Reserve's [statement](#), and [economic projections](#).

U.S.-Canada Border Closure to be Extended Beyond June 21, Sources Say

The Canada-U.S. border closure to all non-essential traffic will be extended beyond the June 21 date set last month, sources tell the Canadian Broadcasting Company (CBC) News.

Sources with direct knowledge of the situation have confirmed to CBC News that Canada and the United States are holding talks about extending the border restrictions but the agreement has yet to be signed.

For more information please read the [article](#) and stay tuned for announcements.



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CONFIRMED AND PROBABLE CASES OF COVID-19 IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Please note: The statistics are also available on the [Snohomish Health District website](#) and the Washington State Department of Health [dashboard](#).

ESSENTIAL LINKS AND PHONE NUMBERS FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

- [Snohomish Health District](#)
- [Snohomish County](#)
- [Snohomish County COVID-19 Response & Community Resource Hub](#)
- [Washington State](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- Snohomish County COVID-19 Phone Line: **425-388-3944**
- Washington State COVID-19 Hotline: Call **1-800-525-0127** or text **211-211** for help. For information to be texted to you, text **Coronavirus** to **211-211**.

Confirmed and Probable Cases of COVID-19 in Snohomish County (as of June 10, 2020)

This Friday, June 12, will be SHD's last daily update on case counts. Data on case counts are available through the Department of Health [dashboard](#). The shift in reporting will allow SHD to focus on monitoring metrics for entering into Phase 3 in the future.

Case Count	Last Updated: 1:05 p.m.
Confirmed	3,091
Probable	442
Deceased	153

Jurisdiction	Last Updated: 2:00 p.m.
Arlington	128 (120 recovered)
Bothell*	221 (203 recovered)
Brier	22 (22 recovered)
Darrington	<5 (<5 recovered)
Edmonds	356 (304 recovered)
Everett	1,047 (840 recovered)
Gold Bar	<5 (<5 recovered)
Granite Falls	29 (24 recovered)
Index	0
Lake Stevens	126 (118 recovered)
Lynnwood	670 (579 recovered)
Marysville	266 (225 recovered)
Mill Creek	57 (48 recovered)
Monroe	91 (78 recovered)
Mountlake Terrace	117 (104 recovered)
Mukilteo	68 (60 recovered)
Snohomish	163 (147 recovered)
Stanwood	112 (93 recovered)
Sultan	8 (8 recovered)
Tulalip	23 (21 recovered)
Unknown/Other	<5 (<5 recovered)
Woodinville*	12 (11 recovered)
Woodway	8 (8 recovered)

Numbers less than 5 are suppressed to protect medical privacy. Unknown includes cases still under investigation. *Counts are for portions in Snohomish County only.